

# Trunklines

SPRING 2012

The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee

501 (c)(3) Nonprofit Corporation



## Elephant Update: *A Warm Wet Winter*

Everyone has been relishing this year's mild Tennessee winter. On colder days, The Girls are welcomed by brisk mornings, a kind greeting and hearty breakfast from their Caregivers. When done, they burst or stroll through the barn doors, sometimes with a trumpet or two, into the mid-morning sunshine which envelops them like a warm cloak; that is, if they've stayed the night in the barn. There have been more nights than usual spent under the stars this winter, as all of the Girls have extended their daytime adventures into the evening hours. While there have been a few snow days, for the most part it has been wet and rainy, with one fierce thunderstorm resulting in an emergency repair of the Elecams.

***At Asia, it still seems so strange to see Tarra without her Bella by her side.*** Tarra still visits Bella's grave, but we were heartened throughout the Winter to see her elephant sisters reaching out to comfort her, each in their own way. Tarra and Winkie's relationship has had some interesting developments, with Winkie using her trunk to push hay toward Tarra – offering her some comfort food! Although Tarra abandoned her far-reaching travels for a while, choosing instead to remain close to the barn, she has recently resumed her lengthy jaunts with her trusted friend Shirley by her side. Ever mischievous and insatiable when it comes to food, Tarra still tries to sneak in and steal hay from Shirley. The ramifications of being caught range anywhere from resignation to a kick or quick turn

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***Tarra's Birthday Portrait***  
Photo by Jerry Atnip

### ***Tarra's Birthday Portrait***

*This Valentine's Day we celebrated Tarra's 38th Birthday! To commemorate the occasion, professional photographer Jerry Atnip donated his services to take this incredible image of the Birthday Girl in all her glory. Have you ever seen a more photogenic ele?*

*Caregivers showered Tarra with beets, strawberries, and cranberries in a heart-shaped display and she surprised us all by sharing— just one last strawberry—with Winkie! To see a slideshow of Tarra enjoying her birthday treats and to read A Day in the Life of Tarra, visit the February 14th Ele-Note and Asian Diary Updates on [elephants.com](http://elephants.com).*

# the Elephant Sanctuary® in Tennessee

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The Elephant Sanctuary is accredited by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS), and is licensed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA).

P.O. Box 393  
Hohenwald, TN 38462  
PHONE: 931-796-6500  
FAX: 931-796-1360  
info@elephants.com

*We would like to express our sincere gratitude to The Sanctuary members, volunteers and staff who work so diligently to contribute their personal stories, their design talents and awe-inspiring photography, without which this publication would not be possible.*

## Our Mission

The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee, founded in 1995, is the nation's largest natural-habitat refuge developed specifically for endangered elephants. It operates on 2,700 acres in Hohenwald, Tennessee—85 miles southwest of Nashville.

The Elephant Sanctuary exists for two reasons:

- ❖ To provide a haven for old, sick, or needy elephants in a setting of green pastures, hardwood forests, spring-fed ponds, and heated barns for cold winter nights.
- ❖ To provide education about the crisis facing these social, sensitive, passionately intense, playful, complex, exceedingly intelligent, and endangered creatures.

To learn more about The Elephant Sanctuary and all of the resident elephants, visit:

[www.elephants.com](http://www.elephants.com)

## Message from Rob

Our Caregivers are held in high esteem here at The Sanctuary and by our supporters, and they deserve it. They come from all over the country in answer to the call to care for our Girls. Leaving friends and family behind, they do not come for money or prestige. They are often separated for weeks or months from their partners, and they live 80 miles from the attractions of the nearest large city. Their work is arduous, but day after day they embrace it. Whether late at night, in the rain or in the humid, 100° heat of a Tennessee summer wearing protective suits and drenched in sweat, our Caregivers tend to the needs of our Girls.

But the most unselfish aspect of the Caregiver's work is their relationship with the Girls. They work unceasingly towards building a relationship with the Girls, but not for their own benefit. It is so they can care for them in ways that are best for the elephants. More important than anything else, Caregivers have to earn the trust of the elephants through patience and skill.

Their reward is simply serving the elephants better—they do not expect to be embraced by them as one of their own. The Sanctuary's aim is to allow the Girls the chance to develop more enriched and fulfilling lives with each other, while, at the same time, providing expert care for them.

Knowing when and how to step back or step forward requires empathy, understanding and great skill—the hallmarks of a Caregiver at The Elephant Sanctuary.

Join me in thanking our Caregivers for their devotion, their ability and their kindness—and for always putting the Girls first.



Rob Atkinson  
CEO



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## Elephant Update: A Warm Wet Winter

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from Shirley, but even though Tarra knows it's coming, she still squeaks her surprise and consternation each time her attempts are foiled. Sometimes, though, sisterly love is more important than food. Tarra surprised Caregivers when she recently walked right past treats to offer a warm greeting to Sis and Winks.

Caregiver Laurie recounts her interaction with a truly happy Tarra: "She came over to the fence line to say hi and to see if I had any treats for her. Seeing that I was empty-handed, instead of walking away she leaned in for me to scratch her and tell her how beautiful and loved she is. The love fest lasted about ten minutes and she rumbled the whole time... she was just looking for some ele lovin'! It's the first time I've heard her rumble like that since before we lost Bella; it brought happy tears to my eyes." We know that everyone is very concerned about Tarra, but as Caregiver Katie observed, "The less we see of Tarra, the more that means she is spending time with her sisters in the habitat, enjoying the lovely weather!"

We haven't seen too much of Shirley in the barn lately either. Shirley, our stoic survivor, has been taking advantage of the unusually warm winter days and nights. Tarra joins her and socializes for a bit, and then continues on her ramble farther into the habitat. While the other Girls prefer to head back to the warm barn in the evening, Grandma Shirley stays out, content with sleeping under the stars and having her diets delivered to her by the Caregiver staff. Due to her age, Shirley is watched over with a careful eye, but as long as she is doing well we leave her to roam. Shirley has a wandering spirit and with or without her friend Tarra, she loves her time with nature.

The other day Winkie, who can be moody, surprisingly leaned in for a good back scratch from Steve, Director of Elephant Husbandry. Sometimes we'll catch her leaning up against Shirley or Tarra in the morning or peacefully



Tange

sharing hay with Sissy in afternoon. Just the other day, Shirley had her trunk over Winkie's back and was playfully nipping at Winkie's rear end, while later that day Caregivers spotted the two of them enjoying each other's company in the North Yard. Shirley is normally the first one to give Winkie



Minnie

space, so it was nice to see them spending time together so comfortably.

Sissy has been her ever-adorable self with her flapping ears and the choruses of pop pop pop music she happily makes with her trunk. She regularly throws a noise party when she gets inside the barn in the evening or hears us arrive in the morning by banging one of the gates back and forth in its track. If you join in and add your own noises she will keep going with her ears flapping away, mouth open wide.

Dulary and Misty enjoyed several play dates with our social butterfly, Tarra, this past winter during her visits to the South Yard. Several weeks ago, Dulary struggled with a bout of colic but we are deeply thankful that she is now back to her chipper, feisty self! Her attentive Caregivers caught the illness early, giving her loving and thorough care. Her appetite remained good throughout, but Dr. Susan Mikota, Director of Veterinary Care, consulting veterinarian Dr. Scott, and Vet Tech Deb worked round the clock to treat her with fluids, medication, and enemas to ease her discomfort and nurse her back to health. After all that extra attention, Dulary now thinks she is entitled to treats all the time and regularly opens her mouth wide each time Caregiver Laurie approaches! Misty was very attentive during her best friend's illness. She would patiently munch on goodies while Dulary was being treated, and then check that her best friend was doing okay by touching her all over with her trunk and doing a full inspection of Dr. Mikota's work afterward! She and Dulary are the perfect pair. One of our Caregivers, Brianna, said, "Misty is the epitome of adorable—she has this chubby, wrinkly face that makes her look like she's always smiling. I'm a new Caregiver so I haven't been here that long, but it hasn't taken very long for Misty to have stolen my heart!"

***The Girls at Q have been enjoying the wet weather.*** It might take Debbie some convincing to come out of the barn on a cool, rainy day, but once she does, she dashes straight for the mud. Debbie and Ronnie have been reclining in

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## Elephant Update: A Warm Wet Winter

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a huge mud puddle that fills with rainwater during a downpour. They wiggle and splash in the mud, layering as much mud as possible all over their round bodies. They also like to run together through the mud puddles, playing and squeaking.

Minnie loves the rain and particularly the rain-swelled creek. She enjoys laying down, with most of her legs and face covered by water. She uses her trunk as a snorkel and either flails around playfully or just lies there enjoying a nice relaxing bath. One day she found a small pond of water formed by an emptying culvert, and Elecam viewers were lucky enough to see her bobbing in and out and lolling around in it. Minnie's favorite toy during a shower is the

large black culvert that is in her field. She rolls it around, sitting on it, laying on it, and head butting it for hours. When we did have a few snow flurries in December, Minnie played in the winter wonderland, catching the fluttering snowflakes on her back as she dined on her hay in the habitat.

Liz has started another round of TB treatment, and this time her appetite is outstanding and her spirits are high. Thanks to Protected Contact training, she is an active participant in her treatment and has learned to open her mouth to take pills and washes them down with a drink of Gatorade. Afterward, she enjoys a nutritious treat like calf manna or senior horse feed, but some days, treatment seems to take longer than others and the Caregivers need to pull out their bag of tricks or treats to entice her. On those days, when Liz has her back to the Caregivers, looking at them out of the corner of her eyes from the far side of the stall, they've been known to pull out chocolate covered macaroons, frosted mini-wheats, donuts or pies – which eventually gets her attention. Her appetite is healthy and she's eating a wide variety of grains, produce, hay, and supplements to keep her strong. Liz has been enjoying the mild weather and spending time exploring her habitat and wandering up the hill in the Phase I yard. She has been such a trooper! (For more details see the Lizzie Update on page 6.)

Frieda's PC training has given Steve and Dr. Mikota better access to Frieda's feet, resulting in calm and cooperative interactions during her footcare. When Frieda comes to the barn, she always comes straight to the wall, eager to put







*Misty and Dulary*

her foot up and start her foot soaks. Frieda has a look of intense concentration during training. She widens her eyes, her ears are out at attention and she becomes very focused. Some warm mornings when Caregivers arrive, she's already out on the far side of her pond. She loves to explore her habitat, but she's also an elephant who loves her sunny afternoon naps. During her siestas nothing disturbs her—not even passing vehicles or noisy maintenance work.

In contrast, Billie is easily agitated by such disturbances. Q has been undergoing construction over the past few months, with improvements being made to the barn, yard, and training wall. Although Billie can still be quite nervous about such activities, she's come a long way. These days she may still keep an eye on the comings and goings but is content to stay where she is, eating her hay, hanging out with Liz and Frieda, or wandering her habitat. Billie's PC training has improved communication and helped her Caregivers gain her trust and cooperation. She shifts more easily to other stalls when it's time to clean, and doesn't seem to be as apprehensive of interactions. Billie's also been affectionate with Liz, as if she understands her need for support, by gently touching Liz's face with her trunk when she approaches.

***At Africa, Tange and Flora are enjoying the unusually warm Tennessee winter*** so much that Caregivers have had to go back to the summer routine of searching for them in order to give them their meals or afternoon snacks. There have been days that Caregivers didn't see them at all between meals, and there were even a couple days that Caregiver Angela couldn't convince Flora to leave her yummy trees to come eat dinner. The African Girls still go through their cycles of spending every moment together to being on opposite sides of the habitat. There will be weeks where they are glued to each other's side, grazing and knocking down trees. Then suddenly someone will go to feed them a meal and will only find one. Then the

adventure begins to try to find the other one before the first finishes their meal. On some cold evenings they've preferred to stay outside longer so they receive their dinner where they are in the habitat. By the time they return for night feed, Caregivers usually find them inside the toasty barn, waiting for late night snacks.

Caregiver Maddie shared with us a heartwarming Winter moment with Tange: "It was about 65 degrees, in mid January mind you, and I had found Tange in the valley. So, I gave her an afternoon snack of hay and then sat nearby while she slowly munched on it. We chatted and I asked her where I might find Flora and if she was having a nice day. Then in mid chew she slowly started to drift off. Her blinks got longer; she looked so content. I started to whisper to her and she would occasionally look up at me and grab another mouthful of hay. Eventually, I tore myself away to go find Flora so she could also have a snack. But I don't think I'll soon forget the peacefulness of that valley in the afternoon sun." ♦



*Debbie and Ronnie*



## Liz Update: *Everybody Loves Lizzie*



*Liz and Billie*

As many of you remember, last summer we all were waiting, with great anticipation, for Lizzie to reach the end of her TB treatment. After numerous negative test results throughout we hoped for success, but to everyone's dismay one of Lizzie's last test results came back positive. Everyone was shocked and horribly disappointed for Lizzie, who had struggled with decreased appetite, weight loss and lethargy (side effects of the drugs) throughout the treatment.

But, despite how difficult the first treatment was on her body, our precious Lizzie is a fighter. Once she was off the drugs, we saw a return to the joyful Lizzie we know and love. After several months of a break from treatment, Steve Smith, Director of Elephant Husbandry mused, "I wish our supporters could see her now... She is a very happy, content elephant!"

While Lizzie was enjoying her much-needed break, we worked even harder—for it was up to us to identify new ways to approach Lizzie's treatment that might be more successful and easier on her body. The Sanctuary's Veterinarians, Caregivers, Management and Board, with guidance from an expert team of Consultants, developed a new plan to be implemented at year end. Everybody loves Lizzie, and we were determined to be here for her, every step of the way, during this next round of treatment!

Last year, the TB drugs were administered rectally which, of course, is disagreeable for all concerned—so one of our new approaches was to try to train Lizzie to swallow pills. This would be no easy feat considering one day's treatment would require her to swallow 157 capsules of TB medication. (This seems like a lot to swallow, and it is, but remember, an elephant can pop an entire pumpkin in her mouth!) Regarding the pill swallowing technique, Caregiver Ashleigh said, "It's cool because it gives Liz some control over her treatment. She does seem to like the attention and some extra treats ... so that's a plus!"

To minimize any adverse effects from the new drug treatment, Director of Veterinary Care, Dr. Susan Mikota, began a new approach with the approval of the USDA. "It's called a drug tolerance trial, and by introducing one drug at a time at 1/4, 1/2, 3/4 and then full dose, we're able to carefully monitor Liz and her reaction to the TB medications," Dr. Mikota explained.

Once Lizzie had gained back some of the weight she had lost over the last year, we started Lizzie's drug trial on December 8th. Dr. Mikota elaborated: "Once we got to the full dose and there were no adverse effects from the first drug, we added the second drug the same way and then the third. Liz is now on full doses of all three drugs and to our relief has so far shown none of the side effects she had during the earlier treatment!"

Liz's appetite has been fabulous this time around. She's still been eating tons of produce, calf manna, a senior horse feed, and hay. Still, Lizzie likes her treats and Caregivers are happy to give them to her to help with her training and medication. Her doting Caregivers find themselves strolling around the aisles of Morrow's, the local grocery store, thinking, "Hmm, I wonder if Liz would like...." So, along with hay and grasses come the occasional pastries, tiny pies, and donut holes. Lizzie carefully grasps each little treasure with her trunk before swinging it up to her mouth. She sometimes rolls them up with grass and hay and pops the whole thing in her mouth, like a kid with a giant wad of cotton candy. If anybody deserves to have a sweet tooth indulged from time to time, we figure Liz does.

There's a long road ahead for Lizzie—twelve to fifteen months of treatments, but the end of each successful day of treatment is cause for much celebration. After she's been given her treats each day and Caregivers have rubbed her big tongue, we are all reminded of how grateful we are; for all that she's been through, she's still just sweet Lizzie. 💎

## News from Downtown



*"Elephant Eats" nutrition presentation.*

This Winter, the Welcome Center was the destination spot for several groups of school children who were both educated and entertained by Carol Durham, our Caregiver Education Coordinator.

In the "Elephant Eats" nutrition presentation, children learned through touch as they helped create a bucket of treats for Grandma Shirley, and had the rare opportunity to feel the ridges on a real elephant tooth lost by one of our Girls (one of six sets naturally lost in a lifetime). The children were fascinated by the video of Winkie pressing and manipulating an orange with her trunk to make it nice and juicy before peeling it with her nimble trunk tip. In our "What Makes an Elephant an Elephant" presentation, the students identified the ways in which our African Girls, Tange and Flora, are so different from our Asian Girls, Sissy and Winkie.

In January, a dedicated group of students from Brentwood Academy made their educational field trip to Hohenwald also one of service, when they devoted several hours after their presentation to volunteer with merchandising tasks for The Elephant Sanctuary. They were so inspired by The Sanctuary's work, they even contributed to the Wish List by donating a Wal-Mart card for necessities.

The new 2012 Calendar Girls photos now grace the walls of the Welcome Center and monthly Caregiver presentation topics will soon be posted to the website. The Elephant Sanctuary Welcome Center is open to the public on Thursdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. with Caregiver presentations scheduled on the third Saturday of every month. Other times are available by appointment. For more information or to schedule a visit, please call

Lorenda at 931-796-6500 ext. 105 or e-mail [lorenda@elephants.com](mailto:lorenda@elephants.com). ♦

## Elephants & Education

Are you a teacher whose class follows our elephants on the Elecam? Do you read the Tarra and Bella book to your class? Do you keep your students informed about the eles and updates through Ele-Notes? We want to hear from you! We are in the process of updating our education and Distance Learning program at The Sanctuary, and we're looking for feedback from you! We'd like to know your technology capabilities and what you'd like to see in our program as we progress with development.

Please contact Education Manager Christina Cooper at [christina@elephants.com](mailto:christina@elephants.com) or 931-796-6500 x 101. We'd love to add you to our Teacher Database to keep you informed about new educational opportunities at The Sanctuary.

## Trees for Trunks Update: Apples and Pears and Plums—Oh my!



In the Spring of 2011, The Elephant Sanctuary partnered with SoundForest.org, a local nonprofit dedicated to planting trees, to launch our Trees For Trunks project. By planting fruit trees on site, the project was designed to lift some of the financial burden from The Sanctuary and to help us become even more eco-friendly by reducing the use of fuel to transport our produce.

Fruits are part of the daily diet for our Girls, used as a nutritious treat during Protected Contact exercises and as rewards during health care procedures.

On January 28th, thanks to the support of generous donors to the Trees for Trunks project, SoundForest.org planted

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# Changing the life of one elephant forever



*Ramba awaiting rescue in Chile. (Photo by Katherine Haselau)*

by Scott Blais

*The Elephant Sanctuary co-founder*

## RAMBA...

Laden with scars, carrying a sullen expression, and weary with apparent boredom—we observed Ramba and glimpsed into her life. Just a few hours was enough to see the effects of her harsh reality. Every time a trainer would approach, her muscles would tense, her expression would become a little more serious, she would pull her head away, then wait. When Ramba decided it was a “positive” visit or at least not one where harm would be inflicted upon her, she let her guard down, slightly. As young children would approach, offering food or melon, Ramba would advance toward the fence rapidly, inquisitively, gently taking the food then expectantly watch as the children walked away with barely a word spoken. Occasionally, Ramba would stand with her trunk resting on her 4 foot tall corral, other times she would retreat back under her shade cloth, torn and sagging, needing to stoop to seek its benefit. This is the life of an elephant under government protection in Chile, living on a concrete slab the size of a two-car garage, under the care of people that had been fined for abuse and illegal animal trafficking. Undeniably, a miserable existence for any animal or being, but within Ramba we could see a little spark, masked behind layers of self preservation; a distant flicker of hope.

Thanks to a multiyear campaign to free Ramba, spearheaded by Ecopolis ([ecopolisorganizacion.cl](http://ecopolisorganizacion.cl) —a small Chilean animal welfare group) with some international support, and a significant commitment from Parque Safari Rancagua, Ramba would receive a second

chance and a new beginning. In early 2010, Ecopolis celebrated an enormous victory as the courts ordered for Ramba to be removed from her life as an entertainer and transferred to a location better suited to care for her long term needs; a life of sanctuary. In 2011, final preparations were made for Ramba to relocate to 2.5 beautiful, grassy acres, including a pond, streams, bamboo and willow trees, but two failed attempts to load her empowered the circus’s argument that it was best for Ramba to remain in the care of “professionals” like themselves. Ecopolis, small but determined, contacted me requesting a proposal to relocate and help assimilate Ramba to her new home. Running out of time, Ecopolis was counting on my history with The Elephant Sanctuary to sway the courts to accept another proposal. On December 28th, the courts approved the proposal, granting one last attempt with a stipulation: Ecopolis had the next 10 days to complete the move.

January 4th, 2012, was a long and challenging day overshadowed with hostility from the circus, causing many delays, culminating with the arrival of the Colonel of the police force, along with an additional 15 officers. Eventually things were allowed to proceed; passively and patiently, within minutes you could see the ember in Ramba grow brighter; curious, incredibly alert and remarkably calm given the chaos of the world around her. As dusk approached, and time dwindled, Ramba turned and backed herself into the open top transport container—Ramba would indeed find freedom!



*Ramba: finally out of the circus and getting back to the life of an elephant. (Photo by Katherine Haselau)*



Edging towards midnight, illuminated by the nearly full moon and a few small lights on her new barn, produce was laid out to help coax Ramba out of the transport container. With an air of confidence and comfort, Ramba stepped forward, reaching out of the container, twisting and breaking a trunk full of grass, folding it gracefully, and placing it into her mouth. With four more steps and two more bites, Ramba began the seamless melding into her new life. Three hours later, walking out to check on Ramba, we found her tucked along the embankment of her pond lying on her side, peacefully sleeping. The next morning, Ramba walked to the fence, greeted us with a long soft rumble of contentment, wearing a smile that was unmistakable, infectious and simply brilliant. During the next four weeks, Ramba's assimilation to her new world was flawless, endlessly grazing, swimming, rolling in the mud; getting back the life of an elephant. Already there's a noticeable improvement in her muscle tone and general condition, but she still does not completely trust human touch. It may take years to overcome the emotional and psychological damage created over decades, but this special girl is making the most of every moment of her newfound freedom.

Ramba's life has already been changed forever, but it is not



*Ramba now has 2.5 acres and a new beginning.  
(Photo by Katherine Haselau)*

over, we all hope that favorable medical test results and the approval of permits will allow Ramba's life to evolve into one of freedom and elephant companionship at The Elephant Sanctuary... stay tuned. ✧

## Gifts We Receive From The Girls

Excerpts from December 22, 2011 Ele-Note:



All of us at The Elephant Sanctuary are here because of a calling. We are here to give to the Girls. Though, in the end, it's really the Girls who give to us.

**Caregiver Laurie, Asia**  
*The Girls give me:*

**Laughter**— it is impossible

to watch Misty get excited—spin, trumpet, tail out, foot up, her itty bitty eyes gleaming with excitement and a little mischief, which causes Dulary to run (and I mean run) over for a rumblefest—without cracking up and feeling so incredibly lucky to witness that each and every time.

**Caregiver Angela, Africa**

*It is really a gift just to be able to spend time with the Girls.*

*Even though Flora is a celebrity these days, you'd never know it by her demeanor. She gives us **Acceptance** and a quieter part of herself most of the time. She has shown us how even when life takes turns you don't understand, in time you can find an inner peace that helps you move forward and allows those around you "in" more.*

**Caregiver Sam, Q**

*The Girls have each given us wonderful gifts. Sometimes you recognize it in an instant, sometimes it takes months to realize what you've been given.*

*And dear, sweet Billie gives us **Compassion**. Of all the Q-Girls, Billie seems the most scarred by her time with the Hawthorn Corporation. Fearful of new and different things, startled by us if we accidentally come around a corner too soon, Billie still has a long way to go in trusting us. But no matter how difficult she can be, like when she's preventing Frieda and Liz from leaving the barn in the morning because she won't leave, or when she's waking Frieda up from a nap because of a new noise off in the woods, we can't look at Billie with anything but love, our hearts breaking for what she has endured to make her the way she is. Billie makes us strive to be better, to do better, every day. She makes us try our hardest to somehow make up for the hurt done to her. And on days where we feel like we've made progress with Billie, like last summer when Richard was finally able to remove the chain around her ankle, we can't help but cry tears of joy.*

Every day at The Elephant Sanctuary, we are reminded that the Girls are the most incredible, beautiful gifts of all. ✧



# Our New Legacy Society

## Securing the Future of our Elephants

As important as each and every membership contribution is to The Sanctuary, there is another way for donors to make a big impact on the future of our Girls and their Sanctuary: Over the past 17 years, the Sanctuary and our Girls have been the recipients of many bequests and planned gifts.

A recent example is the generous support of Mr. George L. Conner through the Charitable Trust he created prior to his death. In 2010 a gift from Mr. Conner's Trust funded the Sanctuary's upgraded Elecams. This project not only allows individuals from all over the world to observe our Girls in their natural habitat without intruding on their Sanctuary—it is also vital to their safety, allowing Caregivers to monitor the Girls in their habitat, and is the corner stone of our Distance Learning Program. Mr. Conner's generous bequest enables us to care for our elephants and to educate children and adults around the world.

Sadly, Mr. Conner passed away before The Sanctuary knew about his generous contribution. In honor of him and all those who have left generous donations to The Elephant Sanctuary in their wills or as a planned gift, we are creating a new herd.



## The Elephant Sanctuary Legacy Society

This allows us to recognize these donors during their lifetime and beyond for their amazing foresight and generosity.

Not everyone has the ability to endow an elephant, build a new barn or fund The Sanctuary's \$1 million dollar fencing project during their lifetime. For most of us this is beyond our reach when we have bills to pay and families to feed. Such projects, however, and many more like them, are essential to the long term security of our Girls. With a life span that can last up to 60 or 70 years, it is very possible that our youngsters like Flora, Tange and Tarra may outlive many of us. By remaining focused on their current needs while at the same time having a plan for their long term future, we can provide life-long care for elephants under our guardianship today and for those who have yet to find their way to our Sanctuary.

A Charitable Bequest, a gift left through your last will and testament, is one of several planned giving vehicles available for donors. It is certainly the simplest and most common, making up nearly 20% of all charitable giving in America. Bequests allow donors to make a significant impact on the future of an agency that touched them during their lifetime.

With your permission, Legacy Society members will be recognized on our website and through special programs

(or, at your request, may remain anonymous). If you have done so or would like to establish a bequest or planned gift for The Elephant Sanctuary through your will or estate, please let us know by filling out the following form and sending it in the enclosed envelope. Our appreciation is something we want to share with you now, as we all plan for the future of our Girls.

For more information on how you can leave a bequest to The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee through your will or estate plan, please contact Lorenda Rochelle at 931-796-6500 ext. 105 or by email at [lorenda@elephants.com](mailto:lorenda@elephants.com). 💎

### Planned Gifts

Yes, I ☐ have left / ☐ would like to leave a donation to The Elephant Sanctuary through a planned gift. Please contact me at:

Name

Address

City  State  Zip

Phone

Email



# Ways You Can Help The Sanctuary



You can contribute in a variety of ways: in your own name or In Honor/In Memory of a friend or family member. Contributions may be made on a one-time basis or once a month for as long as you specify. You can also support The Sanctuary by becoming a VIP Member with a \$10,000 pledge, or you can volunteer your time and energy during our volunteer days. For more information on how you can support The Sanctuary, please call us at 931-796-6500.

The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation. Your donations to any of the programs below are tax deductible.

Use the form on the enclosed envelope to provide information and indicate which giving program you have chosen.

## Membership

Choose your level and become part of the nation's largest natural-habitat sanctuary for old, sick, and needy elephants retired from circuses and zoos. Members receive a subscription to *Trunklines* for a year. Give a membership as a gift and you also receive an elephants.com decal for your window.

### Donor Society

|       |                 |            |
|-------|-----------------|------------|
| _____ | \$10,000+       | Founder    |
| _____ | \$5,000-\$9,999 | Benefactor |
| _____ | \$1,000-\$4,999 | Patron     |
| _____ | \$500-\$999     | Sustainer  |
| _____ | \$100-\$499     | Supporter  |

### Friends

|       |      |               |
|-------|------|---------------|
| _____ | \$75 | Associate     |
| _____ | \$50 | Family        |
| _____ | \$30 | Individual    |
| _____ | \$10 | Elder/Student |



\_\_\_\_ Please contact me with information about becoming a VIP Member with a \$10,000 pledge.

## Feed for a Day

Tarra, Shirley, Sissy, Winkie, Tange, Flora, Misty, Billie, Debbie, Frieda, Liz, Minnie, Ronnie and Dulary eat a lot of food! You can help by feeding any or all of them for a year, a week, or...  
\$30 feeds one elephant for one day.



Just tell us which elephant you'd like to feed and how often. You will receive an acknowledgment of your gift and a copy of the bio of the elephant(s) you fed.

You may contribute in as many ways as you'd like: in your own name or in honor of a friend or family member. Contributions may be made all at once or once a month for as long as you specify.

\$30 x \_\_\_\_\_ (# of days) x \_\_\_\_\_ (# of elephants) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Elephant \_\_\_\_\_

## The Bella Fund

Though the generous donation of thousands of donors, The Elephant Sanctuary has established The Bella Fund—a memorial fund to honor Bella's life here at The Sanctuary and her friendship with Tarra—a friendship which brought such joy and inspiration to people the world over.

Donations to The Bella Fund will be used to support both the ongoing care of our elephants as well as the care of strays, like Bella, who wander into Hohenwald seeking sanctuary and friendship. A portion of the proceeds will be used to support local humane associations and their efforts to care for strays in need of a permanent home.

To donate to the **Bella Fund**, please visit our **In Memory or In Honor donation page** and make your contribution in memory of Bella. Your support allows us to provide a lasting legacy to Bella, who will forever have a home here at The Sanctuary and in our hearts.



# Elephant Sanctuary Merchandise

Use the order form envelope inside this newsletter or shop online at: [www.elephants.com/estore](http://www.elephants.com/estore)

## Sanctuary Clothing

### Tan T-Shirt with Green Logo - \$15.00

Adult ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL) Youth ☐ (L) ☐ (XXL) \$17 ☐ (XXXL) \$17

### Blue T-Shirt with White Logo on Chest - \$15.00

Adult ☐ (S) ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL) ☐ (XXL) \$17

### Elephants.com T-Shirt - \$15.00

Our new sand colored tee features an artistic grayscale image of Tange and our website address in green.

Adult ☐ (S) ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL) ☐ (XXL) ☐ (XXXL)  
Youth ☐ (S) ☐ (M) ☐ (L)

### Embroidered Logo Polo Shirts - \$30.00

Available in stone or blueberry in women's sizes and bark for men. Traditional relaxed look. 7oz. 100% ring-spun combed cotton, heavy-weight pique preshrunk.

Color ☐ (Stone) ☐ (Blueberry) ☐ (Bark--Men's)  
Size ☐ (S) ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL) ☐ (XXL) ☐ (XXXL)

### Tarra & Bella T-Shirt (4-color) \$20.00

Adult Unisex sizes in pistachio green. Youth & Toddler sizes in Royal Blue except YXS

Adult ☐ (S) ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL) ☐ (XXL) ☐ (XXXL)  
Youth ☐ (YXS Green) ☐ (YS) ☐ (YM) ☐ (YL)  
Toddler ☐ (2T) ☐ (3T) ☐ (4T)

### Long Sleeve

#### Brown T-Shirt \$20.00

This long sleeve tee is 100% preshrunk cotton. Logo is imprinted on the chest in gold. Made by Gildan. Unisex sizes.

Adult ☐ (S) ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL)

### Youth Logo T-Shirts \$10.00

Jade green, yellow, hot pink or blue

Youth ☐ (YXS) ☐ (YS) ☐ (YM) ☐ (YL)

### Toddler Logo T-Shirts \$10.00

Pink or blue

Toddler ☐ (2T) ☐ (3T) ☐ (4T)

### Zippered Hoodie Sweatshirts - \$40.00

(Larger sizes \$42 where noted) Stay warm in these hoodies by Port & Company with a multi-colored Sanctuary Logo embroidered on the chest. Two-ply hood. Set-in sleeve. 9 oz. 50/50 preshrunk cotton/poly fleece.

#### Gray w/Color Logo

Adult ☐ (S) ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL) ☐ (XXL) \$42 ☐ (XXXL) \$42

#### Royal Blue w/Color Logo

Adult ☐ (S) ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL) ☐ (XXL) \$42 ☐ (XXXL) \$42

### Logo Sweatshirts - \$20.00

(Larger sizes \$22 where noted) Super-comfortable Sanctuary sweatshirts from Gildan Active-wear in Heavy Weight Blend 50/50.

#### Grey w/Blue Logo

Adult ☐ (S) ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL) ☐ (XXL) \$22 ☐ (XXXL) \$22

### Yam Colored Hoodie \$60.00

With Sanctuary Logo embroidered across the chest, Jersey lined hood with matching drawcord, ribbed cuffs & relaxed bottom band, two needle stitched seams throughout, pigment shades naturally vary, 9.5 oz. 80% ring-spun cotton/20% polyester

Adult ☐ (S) ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL) ☐ (XXL)

### Baseball Cap \$15.00

Comfortable, casual and adjustable 50/50 cotton/poly blend with Sanctuary Logo embroidered on the front and website on the back. Two colors available.



☐ Denim Bill

☐ Green Bill

### Distressed Caps \$20.00

Embroidered with the Sanctuary Logo. Distressed, enzyme washed finish and soft feel. 100% cotton twill. Metal D-ring slider buckle with hide-away strap.



☐ Orange

☐ Nickel

### Flora - \$20.00

Indigo blue, 100% cotton, unisex sizes

Adult ☐ (S) ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL) ☐ (XXL) ☐ (XXXL)

### Ronnie T-Shirt - \$20.00

Chocolate brown, while supplies last. Shirts are unisex sizes; 100% cotton preshrunk

Adult ☐ (S) ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL) ☐ (XXL) ☐ (XXXL)

### Shirley - \$20.00

Tan, 100% cotton, unisex sizes

Adult ☐ (S) ☐ (M) ☐ (L) ☐ (XL) ☐ (XXL) ☐ (XXXL)

All proceeds benefit The Girls!



# Elephant Sanctuary Merchandise

Use the order form envelope inside this newsletter or shop online at: [www.elephants.com/estore](http://www.elephants.com/estore)

## DVD Videos



- |                             |         |                                |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|
| "All of Our Girls...So Far" | \$30.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> (DVD) |
| "Tarra & Bella - The Video" | \$15.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> (DVD) |
| "Flora"                     | \$15.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> (DVD) |
| "Dulary's Homecoming"       | \$15.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> (DVD) |
| "The Urban Elephant"        | \$30.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> (DVD) |

## Greeting Cards

### Elephant Note Cards - \$10.00

Blank inside; ideal for any occasion! Featuring illustrations of Queenie, Tarra & Dulary, Debbie and Frieda; Mixed pack of 12 w/envelopes.



### Children's Elephant Art Cards

Illustrations by Lewis County grade school students

- ☐ Mixed pack of 12 w/envelopes; Blank inside \$12.00

### Elephant Photo Greeting Cards - \$12.00

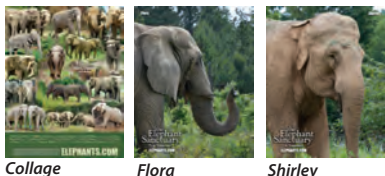
Blank inside; ideal for any occasion! Featuring eight of our Girls in four different full color photos. 12 cards w/envelopes.



### Elephant Photo Holiday Cards \$20.00

Version 6: Pack of 12 w/envelopes Inside message "Peace on Earth, Sanctuary To All"

## Posters 11"x14" - \$10.00



To view all 12 posters, see our website.

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collage                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Dulary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shirley                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Flora  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sissy                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Misty  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tange                   |                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winkie                  |                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tarra & Bella #1        |                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tarra & Bella #2        |                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frieda, Billie & Liz    |                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Minnie, Debbie & Ronnie |                                 |

## NEW! Stuffed Elephants

A Conservation Critter from Wildlife Artists Collection. This collection is authentic and realistic, giving attention to markings, pose and proportion. Very soft!



**Stuffed Elephant- \$10.00**  
9 1/2 inches long and 3 1/4 inches tall.



**Stuffed Elephant with Clasp- \$6.00**  
5 inches tall with a clasp to attach to backpacks, totes and more!

## Miscellaneous



### Color Mugs - \$10.00

- ☐ Ned ☐ Dulary  
☐ Tarra & Bella  
☐ Logo Mug

### Elephant Sanctuary Mouse Pads \$10.00

- ☐ Tarra & Bella  
☐ Founding Herd  
☐ Billie-Sue, Frieda & Liz



### Recycled Econo Lanyard - \$3.00

This custom lanyard is green with elephants.com & elephant images. It is 1/2 inch wide X 18" long with a clip attachment made from recycled material.

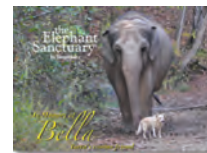


**NEW!**

### In Memory of Bella Postcard (4x9)

This unique card was created In Memory of Bella to celebrate Tarra & Bella's devoted relationship. It comes with an envelope for mailing a quick note to a friend.

- ☐ Single card - \$1.00  
☐ Pack of 10 - \$10.00



### Tarra & Bella Magnet \$3.00

### 2012 Sanctuary Calendar - \$7.50

12x12 with Tange and Flora on the cover and inside poster.



## Tote Bags



**Allie Orange Tote Bag - \$25.00**  
Embroidered with Sanctuary logo



**Canvas Olive Tote Bag - \$30.00**  
Embroidered with Sanctuary logo



**Sanctuary Logo Tote Bag - \$10.00**  
Beige with blue logo



**Jenny Tote Bag - \$15.00**  
Beige with 4-color imprint

**Shirley Tote Bag - \$15.00**  
Beige with 4-color imprint

**Tarra & Bella Tote Bag - \$15.00**  
Beige with 4-color imprint



**More!** Lots of other merchandise available. Please visit our Gift Shop online at [www.elephants.com/estore](http://www.elephants.com/estore)

Follow the links on our website to order Elephant Sanctuary US Postage Stamps and "Ele-Checks." A portion of proceeds benefits The Sanctuary!





## Getting to Know... Steve



Steve Smith, Director of Elephant Husbandry

### ***What made you choose elephants as the focus of your career?***

"As soon as I started working with elephants I saw how intelligent and sociable they were; I realized I loved working with them. They're so smart, so complicated. I think my Ethology degree and my passion for elephants really suits my interest in understanding them, what they need and what I should do to best provide for them. I enjoy reading and responding to elephants better than the work I've done with any other animal."

### ***If you had one bottom line goal to achieve during your tenure at TES what would it be?***

"I'd like to work with Minnie, Billie, Flora and Winkie to reduce their inclination to sometimes act aggressively, and I'd like to pass that knowledge on to our staff."

### ***What excites you about working at The Elephant Sanctuary?***

"Ever since it opened, I wanted to work at The Sanctuary. I thought THIS is the kind of place to keep elephants in captivity, if they must be in captivity. I want to give the elephants the best life they can have to make up for the abuses they've been subjected to in their lives before The Sanctuary."

### ***Name three adjectives to describe our Girls.***

"*Lucky* to have been removed from inappropriate captive situations. *Amazing* in their willingness to work with us to give them a better life, especially given the humans they've known in the past. *Startling* when their behaviors reveal how smart they are when you're working with them."

***Name a few accomplishments you're proud of achieving in the short time you've been the Director of Elephant Husbandry.***

I've spent a lot of time observing and working with Winkie and she seems to be very calm around me. Liz is months into her TB treatment. I'm pleased to have worked with the Asia Barn staff in accelerating PC training there—we now have PC everywhere at The Sanctuary.

### ***Tell us about your pet at home.***

"We have a 120 lb French Mastiff. We adopted her; we are her seventh or eighth home. We lived the madness of "Turner and Hooch" when we first brought her home: went through a lot of shoes, a lot of remotes, a lot of CDs and DVDs... but Zoe has turned out to be a loving and wonderful family dog." ♦



Liz, Frieda and Billie

## Trees for Trunks Update

*(cont. from page 7)*

229 plum and Bartlett Pear trees in a single Saturday. The organization brought all the trees, the tools necessary to plant them, and the volunteers to do the work. This was the second time they've given their time—they also planted plum and apple trees alongside Sanctuary volunteers on a Volunteer Day this past Fall. And it's no easy task, digging in the rock hard clay, with Virgil or any number of the Sanctuary dogs chasing your shovel!

Thank you to all of the donors, volunteers and to SoundForest.org for making Trees for Trunks such a success! ♦





## Supporters' Spotlight:

### Joan Spievak

Here at the Sanctuary, we believe we have some of the greatest supporters around! We would like to recognize one such supporter in Trunklines. Her name is Joan Spievak. Joan has become a forever friend to Our Girls as well as to our staff.

"I came to know about the Sanctuary in reading PAWS' website. As you know, the plan was to get Ned stronger [at The Elephant Sanctuary] and send him to PAWS. He never made it to California, but at least he knew peace and love and beauty for six months in Tennessee."

"The day Ned arrived in Tennessee and ever-so-slowly and elegantly walked out of the truck was the day I found my voice to help save elephants as best I could. To this day, the pictures of his emaciated body bring me to tears...He fought so hard to live, but one day, he just couldn't fight any longer. His years of performing, while so terribly ill, had taken their toll. Ned died on May 15th—my birthday. It's a day that Ned and I will share always. My dream and what I continue to work for is an end to cruelty to elephants and to have them walk the hills and valleys and streams in Tennessee."

Along with thousands of others, Joan was moved to tears by the loss of Bella last year: "I realized that I was a part of something very special. To realize that, because of The Sanctuary, we have been brought together by our love for elephants and a little dog named Bella."



But Joan also looks to the Sanctuary's future: "I'm so excited about the new veterinary clinic named for Lota." Joan doesn't just rejoice in the Sanctuary's successes—she helps make them happen. For instance, Joan is a frequent visitor to our Wish List, the inventory on our website of things we need at the Sanctuary. When asked how Joan has helped make a difference, our Caregivers at all three barns were quick to respond. *"We always try to keep the Girls engaged during the Winter, when they have to spend more time inside. We listed all the supplies needed to construct new toys, assuming we'd just get some of it in time for winter. Well, we didn't count on Joan. Within a matter of days, ALL of our toy paraphernalia had been purchased by Joan. We were stunned! Joan is a shining star to all of us!"* —Sam, Q Lead Caregiver

*"The love Joan has for these elephants is so big some of it spills over onto us! It is so appreciated and always feels undeserved."* —Laurie, Asia Lead Caregiver

*"I really appreciate that Joan sponsors 4-Wheelers and underwrites tools, ceiling fans—anything like that is awesome. Joan makes it possible to keep the necessities on hand."* —Angela, Africa Caregiver

When we contacted Joan about including her in *Trunklines*, she replied, "I would be honored." Joan, we are honored to have you as part of our Sanctuary family! You are a beautiful person and we truly appreciate your love, support and friendship. 💎

## The Sanctuary in the News



Rob Atkinson, CEO of The Elephant Sanctuary, interviewed on CNN

On November 30th, CNN contacted The Elephant Sanctuary to request that CEO Rob Atkinson provide an expert interview on whether or not elephants should be performing in circuses, and his thoughts on the fines for alleged abuse against Feld Entertainment, which owns the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. The company agreed to pay \$270,000 in USDA fines for allegedly violating the Animal Welfare Act on several occasions from June 2007 to August 2011.

"It's a shot across the bows to Ringling Bros. that the USDA means business," Rob Atkinson commented.

Regarding the use of a bullhook, a tool with a sharp hook commonly used in circuses for training elephants, Rob stated, "The bullhook is a traditional tool used for training elephants. It's been used for 4,000 years but it's absolutely not necessary... There is no need to use any kind of negative reinforcement or pain or punishment. The only reason that that tool exists is to inflict a level of pain. And sometimes that pain can be quite extreme."

"We believe the best place for captive elephants is in a natural sanctuary like The Elephant Sanctuary in Tennessee. Our hope is to provide a safe haven for many more elephants in the future, a place where they can live long and happy lives with other elephants amongst natural surroundings."

You can help captive elephants. Write a letter to your congressman supporting H.R. 3359, the Traveling Exotic Animal Protection Act or visit <https://www.popvox.com/bills/us/112/hr3359> to show your support. 💎

## Wish List

On the website, The Elephant Sanctuary maintains a wish list that is ever-changing to meet the needs of the elephants in our care. You can help by underwriting a specific item. Please go to [www.elephants.com](http://www.elephants.com) and select "You Can Help" from the main menu and choose "Wish List," or contact [lorenda@elephants.com](mailto:lorenda@elephants.com).

We have approved vendors from which we order these items. You can simply help pay for one of these items by check or credit card. Just indicate on your check the item you wish to underwrite and send in the enclosed envelope. At press time, here's just a sample of some items needed:

Tires for Barn Gate Renovations  
Blood Pressure Cuff Monitor (for elephants)  
Envirocide Disinfectant  
Air Filters for PAPRs  
Platinum Plus Wellness Formula  
Tractor Supply Gift Cards  
N95 Respirator Masks – 3M9211/3M8511  
Two-Person Sportsman Touring ATV  
18-Volt Rechargeable Batteries  
Cosequin Equine Powder, 1400 gm.  
Schizandra Berries  
Tyvek Coveralls  
Gojo Waterless Hand Cleaner  
Wal-Mart Gift Cards  
Welding Helmet with PAPR System

If you have questions, please call Lorenda at 931-796-6500 ext. 105 for more information.

Please visit our website:  
**[www.elephants.com](http://www.elephants.com)**

501 (c)(3) Nonprofit Corporation

## For news between *Trunklines* issues, follow us online!

**eTrunklines:** monthly email newsletter; sign up on our website or email [cathy@elephants.com](mailto:cathy@elephants.com)



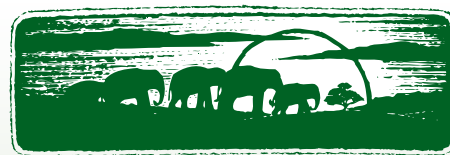
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*To improve the lives of captive elephants,  
please contact your legislators.*



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